

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/625,308

Examiner

Eric K Nicholson

Applicant(s)

FURUTA, NORIHIKO

Art Unit

3679

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the application filed 7-23-03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Eric K Nicholson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3679

Part III.

EXAMINER'S REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

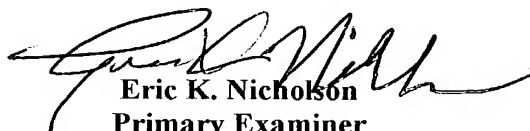
The present invention of a hose coupling structure for connecting a hose with a corrugated metal tube to a mating pipe is deemed to be an unobvious improvement over the prior art of record for example U.S. patent 6,173,995 to Mau, U.S. patent 2,113,211 to Lake and U.S. 3,008,737 to Longfellow. The improvement include providing the combination of a socket fitting, connecting pipe, mating pipe, hose body and a separate fastening member. The hose body has a leading end of its metal, corrugated inner layer exposed axially out of its outer layer such that the leading end is clamped between the complementary flared abutment surfaces of the mating pipe and the connecting pipe and held therebetween via the fastening member so as to form the leading end portion in a corresponding flared end. The abutment surface of the connecting pipe being formed at a tip-end inner surface and being flared axially outward. Further, the socket fitting is placed on an outer surface of the axial end of the hose body and secures the connecting pipe to the hose body via radially inwardly compression on the socket thereby gripping the hose body between the connecting pipe and the socket fitting.

It is noted that figures 1 and 2 of U.S. patent 6,742,815 to McCurdy illustrate the present invention and are labeled as "prior art", however the present invention was filed prior to the McCurdy patent.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Nicholson whose telephone number is (703) 308-0829. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesdays thru Fridays from 7:30 to 6:00.

ekn w@h
3/17/04


Eric K. Nicholson
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